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SELECTIONS

FROM THE

VERNACULAR NEWSPAPERS

PUBLISHED IN THE PANJÁB,

NORTH-WESTERN PROVINCES,

OUDH, CENTRAL PROVINCES, CENTRAL INDIA, AND RÁJPÚTÁNÁ, Received up to 22nd June, 1885.

POLITICAL.

The Rafiq-i-Hind (Lahore), of the 20th June, deplores the change of British Ministry, say-Change of British Minising that at such a critical juncture only an old and experienced statesman like Mr. Gladstone could be trusted to manage the affairs of the State properly. At present the Conservative party consists of raw and inexperienced youths, who would not hesitate to endanger the peace of the whole world in order to enhance the imaginary prestige of England. Lord Salisbury himself, the new Prime Minister, has hitherto so strongly inveighed against the Russian Government that it is almost impossible to think that he will be able to maintain even a semblance of friendship with it. His attitude towards Afghánistán has also hitherto been one of hostility, and hence there is reason to fear that he may plunge this country into a third terrible Kábul war.

The Shaftq-i-Hind (Lahore), of the 13th June, regrets The same. has sustained a defeat over the ReveCirculation, 400 copies.

Circulation, 400 copies.

to say that Mr. Gladstone's Ministry

nue Bill, and has resigned in consequence. It will be remembered that a few weeks ago Mr. Gladstone declared in a speech in Parliament that his political career was drawing to a close. This shows that he expected strong opposition to the Bill, and therefore warned the Conservatives that, if they inflicted a defeat on him, they would have to undertake the task of Government. The question is, what effect will the change of Ministry have on British policy? Any one who is at all acquainted with the British Constitution ought to know that the political party, which is out of office, always finds fault with the Government. But when it itself assumes the responsibilities of office, it adheres to the policy of its predecessors except in those points in which it widely differs from Hence it may be assumed that, although the Conservative leaders have condemned Mr. Gladstone's Central Asian policy as one of weakness and humiliation, they will continue negotiations with the Russian Government on the same lines on which he had conducted them. If they unwisely depart from that policy and go to war with Russia, they will involve England in great difficulties. The resignation of Mr. Gladstone's Ministry cannot but be regarded as a misfortune to this country. The noble measures introduced by Lord Ripon stood still in need of the support of a Liberal Government. Natives can expect nothing from the new Government, of which Lord Lytton will be a leading member. They will be very thankful to it if it does them no harm.

Circulation, 275 copies. The Najmu-l-Akhbár (Etáwah), of the 16th June, in commenting upon the same subject, remarks that the question is, what will be the policy of the new Ministry towards this country? Lord Randolph Churchill is the only member of the new Ministry who has any sympathy with this country, all the rest being inclined to war, tyranny, and oppression. True, Mr. Gladstone was prejudiced against Musalmáns, and his foreign policy was unsatisfactory. But he was a friend of

peace, and refrained from war as much as possible. As the Amir is opposed to the entrance of British troops into his territories, the Conservative Government would be ill-advised in entering into hostilities with Russia. If we pick a quarrel with him, he would throw himself into the arms of Russia and use the money and arms we have given him against ourselves. All idea of occupying Herat or Kandahar should be abandoned and we should be content with fortifying our own frontier. British troops should be entirely withdrawn from Egypt, and Turkey entrusted with the entire control of the affairs of that country. friendship of the Porte should be purchased at any price, because it would render invaluable aid in the great impend-The Najm is surprised at the wide ing struggle with Russia. difference between the powers of the British and native subjects of Her Majesty. The former class can bring about the downfall of a Ministry if it does anything against their wishes; while the latter cannot even get a district officer transferred. to another place.

The Akhbár-i-Am (Lahore), of the 17th June, referring to the Central Asian question, remarks that the buffer policy is a delusion. In the first place, Afghánistán has been greatly crippled by the wars which the British Government has waged against her, and she is not in a position to offer any strong resistance to the advance of Russia. Secondly, the payment of an annual subsidy and the gifts of arms to the Amír will lead the Afgháns to under-rate the power of England, and thus they will be induced to submit to Russia. Hence the money and arms given to the Amír are simply thrown away.

The Bhárat Jiwan (Benares), of the 15th June, in regard to the question of the defence of India, argues that the best defence lies in the good-will of the millions of this country. All invidious distinctions between Europeans and natives should be done

Circulation, 2,500 copies.

Circulation, 1,750 copies. away with, and the two classes placed on a footing of perfect equality. If the native chiefs and the people are happy and contented, there is no danger to the British Indian Empire from Russian advance.

GENERAL ADMINISTRATION.

Circulation,

The Rafig-i-Hind (Lahore), of the 20th June, regrets to say that some districts in Bengal, such Famine in Birbhoom and Burdwan. as Burdwan, Murshedabad, and Birbhoom have lately been suffering from a scarcity of rice and water. Twenty-one persons are said to have died of hunger in a small village, called Karigram, in Murshedabad. A correspondent of the Calcutta Statesman lately stated that, if immediate relief were not rendered, one-fourth of the ropulation of the village would perish. It is a matter of satisfaction that well-to-do natives of the province have contributed subscriptions for the aid of their poorer brethren. But it is equally the duty of a paternal Government to help its subjects in time In 1877, a special famine tax was introduced, of distress. and the Government of India declared at the time that human lives should be saved at any cost, that no man, woman, or child should be allowed to perish from want of food, and that it would always bear this duty in mind. But in spite of the repeated appeals of the Indian Association and other political bodies, the Lieutenant-Governor of Bengal has only sanctioned the sum of Rs. 10,000 for the relief of famine, and that simply as an advance! Sir Rivers Thompson is ready to spend Rs. 70,000 on a Commission appointed to enquire into the alleged grievances of European Government servants, while he is so niggardly in providing for the wants of famine-stricken people. A single death from starvation in England would create a sensation throughout the length and breadth of the island. But in this country millions sterling are spent on unnecessary commissions, darbars, wars, and official migrations to the hills, but great stress is always laid on economy when it is a question of mitigating the effects of a dreadful visitation like famine.

Circulation,

The Shaffq-i-Hind (Lahore), of the 13th June, in continuation of its previous comments on Reduction of public expenditure in the Panjab. reduction of public expenditure, remarks that the so-called economical measures which are believed to be in contemplation are simply ridiculous. Clerks, chaprasis and gardeners attached to public offices will be sacrificed on the altar of economy, as was expected. The Sará-i-Sháhdara has been sold for Rs. 6,000, and it is rumoured that the Shalamar garden will share the same fate. Government ought to be ashamed of selling such public buildings as the garden in question. The Akhbár-i- Am says that the Sunahri mosque will be also sold, but, the mosque being a religious building, the Shafiq thinks that the rumour has no foundation whatever. The sale of Nazul buildings will fetch no large sum of money. Hence Government had better abolish one or two Divisional Courts, stop the official migration to the hills, and reduce all official salaries, exceeding Rs. 1,000 a month, ten per cent. These retrenchments would result in a material saving without causing any wide-spread discontent. The Director of Public Instruction, who is a Civilian, has reduced the number of scholarships this year, although the number of candidates who competed for the different annual examinations this year exceeded the figures for the last year by 40 per cent. No measure could be more detrimental to the cause of high education. Whenever a civilian is placed at the head of the Department of Public Instruction, he always makes it a point to impede the progress of high English education, because an idea prevails in some quarters that high English education makes natives impertinent and disaffected towards Government. It appears from the English journal of the Anjuman-i-Panjab that even the payment of the sum, which had been sanctioned for the Government College Library, has been suspended! If it be desired to enforce economy in the Department in question, the Lahore Training College should be abolished, and natives should be appointed Inspectors of Schools in place of Europeans on reduced pay. European officers, who pass High Proficiency examinations in Oriental languages, are granted large rewards and are also allowed leave up to one year. Is this not a sheer waste of public money? There is no reason why such indulgences should be shown to European officers who draw handsome salaries, in order to induce them to acquire proficiency in vernacular languages. They ought to qualify themselves for the proper performance of their duties at their own expense. By the bye, the examinations in question are a huge sham. They are not under the control of any University, and are generally conducted by European examiners who know little more of oriental languages than a middle school student knows of English.

Circulation, 325 copies.

The Nasim-i-Agra, of the 15th June, states that one Chedi Lal, a trader in Hume-ganj, Mr. Fisher, Magistrate of Etawah. Etáwah, lately applied to the Municipal Committee for permission to build a temple on the top of his house. The Vice-President, after making a local enquiry, reported that the construction of the temple would not interfere with the public convenience in any way, nor did the people in the neighbourhood raise any objection to it, and he recommended that necessary permission might be granted. On this Mr. Fisher, President, passed orders to the effect that it was not sufficient to consult only four or five immediate neighbours of the petitioner, but that all persons living within six or seven hundred paces of his house should be consulted, and that people were sure to object to the construction of the temple, especially to the blowing of the shell, the ringing of the bell, &c. ! Subsequently Mr. Fisher allowed the petitioner to keep idols in his house if he pleased, but forbade him to blow the shell or ring the bell! It is difficult to realize why the Magistrate has imposed such restrictions, although no chjections of any kind were raised by the inhabitants of that quarter of the town. It will not be surprising if in fature the loud proclamation of the call to prayer in Muhammadan

mosques and the ringing of the bell in Christian Churches are prohibited. The order of the Magistrate is highly objectionable, inasmuch as it is calculated to set the different classes of the community by the ears. By the bye, it is believed that he holds his court on fixed days during the week and only attends to some particular kinds of work. He has ordered kilns for baking pottery to be removed outside the town, and has had Meerut pottery sold to the public on some occasions. In short, he is the King of Etawah and does what he pleases.

The Najmu-l-Akhbar (Etawah), of the 20th June, referring to the Resolution of the Supreme Go-Reduction of public expenditure. vernment regarding the reduction of public expenditure, observes that dismissals of native clerks would be attended by wide-spread discontent, while the saving effected in that way would not cover even a fraction of the cost of a war with Russia. The Indian Church, which has long been condemned as an unjust burden on the Indian Treasury, should be disestablished, and the unnecessary official exodus to the hills should be stopped. If these retrenchments do not answer the purpose, all official salaries, exceeding Rs. 1,000 a month, should be curtailed 10 per cent., and the Department of Agriculture and Commerce abolished. No good has accrued from the Department compared with the cost. It has not yet introduced any improved methods of cultivation into any places. It is believed too that the present Director of the department is very fond of ease and does not attend to his duties properly.

The same paper says that Lord Lytton's Gagging Act

was repealed by Lord Ripon. Now another attempt has been made to destroy
the Native Press altogether. A Copyright Bill has been prepared and forwarded to the Secretary of State for approval.
The editor has not yet seen it, but it is believed that it will
prohibit the republication or translation by a newspaper of

Circulation, 275 copies. original telegrams from another newspaper till the expiry of eight days. The secret object of the secret object of the secret object of the supplementation, which, owing to their unsatisfactory innancial condition, generally depend on their Anglo-Indian contemporaries for the supply of news. The Najm argues that this object will not be secured, because some well-to-do native newspapers are sure to make their own arrangements for obtaining telegrams from Reuter's agents and their correspondents. On the contrary, the proposed restriction will lead to the spread of news, published in Anglo-Indian newspapers, in a very distorted form among ignorant persons. The Najm hopes that Lord Dufferin will reconsider the subject and refuse his assent to such an objectionable measure.

Circulation, 182 cories. A correspondent of the Azád (Lucknow), of the 16th June,

Muhammad Husain, Extra Assistant Commishammad Husain, a native of Oudh,
who went to England and studied there
at the Agricultural College, came out first at the final exami-

at the Agricultural College, came out first at the final examination. It was generally expected that on his return home he would be appointed to a high post in the Agricultural Department. He has been attached to that Department, but made only an Extra Assistant Commissioner of the last grade. Moreover, he receives the second class travelling allowance, while officers who are inferior to him in rank are allowed the first-class allowance. Is it not strange that European officers, who have received no agricultural education, should hold the highest offices in the department, while a native, who has undergone a regular training at an agricultural institution, and passed the final examination with credit, has to content himself with a subordinate post?

The Aftab-i-Alamtab (Lahore), of the 15th June, says
Native Government ser. that European officers generally do
vants and the public press. not allow their native subordinates
to have any connection with the public press. Some native

officials do not get promotion, simply because their superior officers suspect that they contribute to newspapers. Even the attendance of native Government servants at public meetings is unacceptable to European officers. It will be remembered that some Deputy Magistrates in Bengal were censured and debarred from promotion for attending Ilbert Bill Meetings. The A'ftdb argues that native Government servants, who are generally fairly educated, well-informed, and well disposed towards Government, should be allowed to contribute to the press.

The Núru-l-Absár (Allahabad), of the 20th June, referring to the Agra College, says that the

College sent twenty-two boys to the late Entrance Examination of the Calcutta University, of whom seventeen were successful. Seventeen candidates competed for the First Arts Examination, of whom sixteen passed. The result of the B. A. Examination was still more creditable. All the five candidates that went up were successful, one of them taking honours in English and Mathematics, and standing at the top of the list in the former subject. The Núr congratulates the Managing Committee and the authorities of the College on the unprecedented success it has achieved at the University Examinations this year, and is glad that the institution has flourished so well under the new arrangement.

Need for volunteering that, in order to revive their old maramong Musalmans. tial instinct, the Musalmans in this country should establish a national university in which both literary and military education should be given. The Funch asks the Nizam to introduce volunteering into all the High Schools in his State, and Saiyid Ahmad Khan to introduce it

into the Muhammadan College at Aligarh.

The Aftáb-i-Panjáb (Lahore), of the 19th June, briefly

Crime in Peshawar.

describes the circumstances under

which Sher Ali Khán, Deputy Inspector

of Police, Peshawar, fired on and wounded an under-trial pri-

Circulation, 140 copies.

noise and addition.

Circulation, 80 copies.

Circulation, 500 copies, soner who had escaped from the lock-up, refers to the attack made by the friends of the prisoner on the police station in consequence, and is surprised that, although crime is so prevalent in that district, no measures are adopted to check it. It is a mistake to deal with lawless Peshawaris in the same lenient way as with peaceful classes.

Circulation,

A correspondent of the Oudh Punch (Lucknow), of the Supply of court-fee 11th June, complains that people are exposed to great inconvenience in obtaining court-fee stamps from the Tahsil offices in the interior of districts. Treasurers do not readily supply stamps, and suits are often barred by limitation owing to the delay. Sometimes persons dance attendance for several days at the Tahsil offices before they are able to obtain stamps.

Circulation, 600 cepies.

The Hindustání (Lucknow), of the 17th June, regrets to say that the movement set on foot at Proposed establishment Lucknow last year for the establishof an Anglo-Sanskrit School at Lucknow. ment of a Sanskrit College there has not proved successful. There is reason to fear that it will be long before such a great project can be carried into effect. It is a matter of satisfaction that the promoters of the movement have resolved that an Anglo-Sanskrit School should be opened in the meantime. Munshi Nawal Kishor, the proprietor of the Oudh Akhbár, who is always ready to promote the cause of education, has promised Rs. 50 a month for the support of the school, Rác Nárain Dás, Officiating District Judge of Sitapur, with whom the idea originated, and to whose efforts the progress of Sanskrit learning in Lucknow, such as it is, is due, Rs. 25 a month, and Rác Bahadur Brijbhukhan Lal an equal sum. All the subscriptions promised for the proposed college will be appropriated to the School Fund. The Municipal Committee will be asked to give a grant-in-aid, and also to provide a schoolhouse, if possible. It is to be hoped that Talukdars and other well-to-do persons in the province will come forward with liberal subscriptions like the three gentlemen mentioned above, in order that the school may be raised to the position of collegiate school.

The same paper states that it appears from the results of

Late middle class vernacular examination held in the North-Western Previnces and Oudh. the late middle class vernacular examination published in the Government Gazette that 396 candidates passed the examination in Hindi and 536 in Urdu.

Although the number of Hindi candidates was less than that of Urdu candidates, it was large enough to show the great popularity of Hindi in these provinces. In order to realize the full meaning of these figures, it should be borne in mind that Hindi receives no encouragement from Government. There is another fact that deserves to be noticed. Many of the candidates, who passed the examination in Hindi, were Musalmans.

The Anwaru-l-Akhbar (Lucknow), of the 22nd June, complains of the scarcity of fresh Scarcity of water at Lucknow. water in some parts of Lucknow, such as the Chowk and Nakhás, and remarks that the inconvenience, to which the poorer classes are exposed in consequence, may be better imagined than described. The scheme for water-supply has long been hanging fire from want of funds. If the Municipal Committee has no funds, it should take a loan. All useless Nazúl lands and buildings, such as those situated near the Machibhawan and the Imambara, should be sold, and the proceeds of the sale devoted to the purpose. Moreover, well-to-do classes may be asked to contribute to the fund. If there be any long delay in carrying out the scheme, some new wells should be sunk, and old ones repaired, in the meantime.

Circulation, 600 copies.

LIST OF NEWSPAPERS EXAMINED.

No.	NAME.	LOCALITY.	LANGUAGE.	MONTHLY, WEEKLY, OR OTHERWISE.	NAME OF PUBLISHER.	DATE OF PAPER.	DATE OF RECEIPT.	GIRCULATION.
	Aftab-i- Alam-tab Aftab-i-Hind	Lahore Juliundur	Urdú Ditto Ditto	Weekly Ditto Tri-weekly	Díván Áyá Singh June Barkat Alí Díván Bútá Singh	1885. 15th 20th 15th, 17th	1885. June 19th. " 22nd " 19th, 20t	150 copies. 500 "
. 400	Ahamu-l-Abhbár Ainn-l-Abhbár	pad	Ditto Ditto		Alí Hasan Khán Diláwar Alí Mugarrab Husain	19th 8th & 15th, 16th	2 2 2	150 65 "
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						1886.	1886.	
8 2	Sayjan Vinod	Agra	Hindí	Weekly	Srf Krishn Lál	i	June	200 copies.
20	-	Meerut		Tri-monthly,	Ahmad Hasan	,, 20th	,, 22nd	108
3 3	Shula-i-Titr Sitera-i-Hind	Cawnpore Morádábád	Ditto	: :	Muhammad Ibrahim, Banwari Lal		" 18th 17th	175 ".
28	Subodh Sindhu	Khandwa	Marsthí	•	Lakshman Anant	17th	, 20th.	
28	Takrib	Morédébéd	Ditto	Ditto	Réhet Alí Khén	19th 19th		
22	Tomannak Tibuanu-l-Akhbar	Lucknow	Ditto	Ditto	Páran Chand	". 16th	" 18th	26.0
85	Tattya-i-Hind	Meerut	Ditto	Weekly	Sajjád Husain	16th		98
200	Pictoria Paper	Ditto	Ditto		Gyán Chand	" 12th to 19th,	" 16th to 22nd,	976
K	Wageya-i-Klam	Gházípur	Urdú	. 8	Sirájul-din Ahmad	15th	20th	

ALLABABAD,
The 27th June, 1886.

Govt. Reporter on the Vernacular Press of Opper India.

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CONFIDENTIAL.

SELECTIONS

PROM THE

VERNACULAR NEWSPAPERS

Received up to 29th June, 1885.

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